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REPORT
No. 811

JANET AND DAISY WONG

SEPTEMBER 24 (legislative day, SEPTEMBER 19), 1951.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. McCARRAN, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 901]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the bill (H. R. 901) for the relief of Janet and Daisy Wong having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

The purpose of the bill is to facilitate the entry of two minor children of a deceased United States citizen.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The beneficiaries of the bill are natives and citizens of China, having been born in Canton on March 11, 1931, and March 19, 1933, respectively. They are presently in Hong Kong where they are being cared for by a teacher at the Catholic Diocese Day School. Their mother was a native-born United States citizen who returned to the United States in 1948 and before she could complete plans to bring the children to the United States she died. The children have several aunts and uncles in Washington, D. C., and Tulare, Calif., all of whom are citizens of the United States and who guarantee to take care of the children.

A letter dated October 18, 1950, to the chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives from the Deputy Attorney General with reference to H. R. 7975, which was a bill

introduced in the Eighty-first Congress for the relief of the same aliens, reads as follows:

OCTOBER 18, 1950.

Hon. EMANUEL CELLER,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

MY DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This is in response to your request for the views of the Department of Justice relative to the bill (H. R. 7975) to provide for the admission of Janet and Daisy Wong to the United States.

The bill would provide that for the purposes of the immigration laws the provisions of section 4 (a) of the Immigration Act of 1924, as amended, shall be held to be applicable in the case of Janet and Daisy Wong, natural-born children of Mrs. Jennie Wong, deceased, who was a United States citizen.

The files of the Immigration and Naturalization Service disclose that Janet and Daisy Wong are of the Chinese race, natives and citizens of China, having been born in Canton on March 11, 1931, and on March 19, 1933, respectively. They have never been out of China and are presently residing in Hong Kong, where they are being cared for by a teacher at the Catholic Diocese Day School. According to Mr. Won Loy Chan, of Washington, D. C., who is an uncle by marriage, their mother, Mrs. Jennie Wong, was born in Tulare, Calif., on August 25, 1891. She went to China when about 36 years of age to visit and while there married the father of the two beneficiaries of this bill, who was a native of China. Mr. Chan stated that he believed Mrs. Wong remained in that country after her husband's death in 1936 until she returned to the United States in May of 1948.

It further appears from Mr. Chan's statement that the two girls have no relatives in China other than an older sister who resides in Canton, and who plans to marry a Cantonese and remain in that city. In addition to his wife, they have two aunts and one uncle, all of whom reside in Tulare, Calif., and are native-born citizens of the United States. According to Mr. Chan, Janet and Daisy Wong are heirs to their mother's interest in a Chinese restaurant which she operated in San Francisco prior to her death on January 6, 1950.

Section 4 (a) of the Immigration Act of 1924, as amended, mentioned in the bill, contemplates the issuance of nonquota immigration visas to alien children of United States citizen parents, upon the approval of a petition for issuance of such visas filed by the parents under section 7 of said act. In the instant case both parents are deceased.

Since the Chinese quota to which the aliens are chargeable is oversubscribed and immigration visas are not readily obtainable thereunder, they will be unable to enter the United States for permanent residence in the near future, in the absence of general or special legislation. There are, however, many alien Chinese children of United States citizens, who are awaiting abroad for the issuance of immigration visas to come to the United States for permanent residence, and the record in the case of Janet and Daisy Wong presents no justification for the enactment of special legislation granting them a preference over such others.

Accordingly, the Department of Justice is unable to recommend enactment of the bill.

Yours sincerely,

PEYTON FORD,
Deputy Attorney General.

Congressman Thomas H. Werdel, the author of the bill, submitted the following letter to the chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, D. C., January 30, 1951.

Hon. EMANUEL CELLER,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: During the second session of the Eighty-first Congress I introduced a private bill (H. R. 7975) to provide for the admission of Janet and Daisy Wong to the United States.

Since it was impossible for your Subcommittee on Immigration to consider this bill before adjournment, I have reintroduced the bill (H. R. 901) in the present session of the Eighty-second Congress.

These young ladies, both minors, are presently residing in Hong Kong, and due to the complicated international situation in that particular area, I am keenly anxious to have them granted visas as soon as possible.

It is my understanding that the necessary affidavits of financial responsibility have been submitted to the American consul at Hong Kong by immediate relatives of the Misses Wong. In addition, these young ladies are heirs to a very substantial financial interest in their deceased mother's holdings in the restaurant business in Tulare and San Francisco, Calif. Needless to state, there is no reason to believe that they will ever become public charges.

For the purpose of review by your committee, I am submitting herewith certain substantiating documents, which are listed as follows:

Affidavit of financial responsibility (Daisy Joe Fung), January 8, 1951.

Affidavit of financial responsibility (Ruby E. Chan), January 15, 1950.

Confirmation of steamship reservations (W. L. Chan), January 10, 1951.

Letter from American consul, Hong Kong, February 24, 1950.

Certified copy of birth record, Jennie Ying Wong (deceased parent).

Newspaper clippings of Wong family (San Francisco newspapers).

Since there is a sentimental value attached to the enclosed newspaper clippings by the Wong family, I would appreciate your returning them to me after they have served their purpose.

Due to my personal interest in this particular matter, as well as the interest previously expressed by my predecessor from the Tenth Congressional District of California, the Honorable A. J. Elliott, it is my intention to make an appearance in behalf of this proposed legislation when it comes before your committee on February 5, 1951.

Sincerely yours,

THOMAS H. WERDEL, M. C.

The documents referred to in Congressman Werdel's letter read as follows:

STATE OF CALIFORNIA,

County of Tulare, ss:

Daisy Joe Fung, being first duly sworn, deposes and says:

That she is a citizen of the United States, having been born in the city of Tulare, county of Tulare, State of California, on the 27th day of November 1899 and has during the greater portion of her life resided in said city of Tulare; her home is now at 333 South N Street, Tulare, Calif., and affiant further states that her home consists of six rooms and a service porch, and that she has ample room to care for and have in her home Janet and Daisy Wong, her two nieces.

Affiant further states that her home is of the approximate value of \$12,000; and affiant states that she owns other unimproved property in the said city of Tulare of the value of from \$1,500 to \$2,000.

Affiant further states that she is married, and that her husband is steadily employed as a machinist, and earns in excess of \$400 per month, and that said husband is anxious and willing to aid in the support of Janet and Daisy Wong.

Affiant further states that she will, at all times, properly care for and support and maintain her two nieces hereinbefore mentioned, and that at no time will she allow them to become a charge upon the city, county, or State in which they reside.

DAISY JOE FUNG.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 8th day of January 1951.

[SEAL]

WARD G. RUSH,

Notary Public in and for the County of Tulare, State of California.

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY

I certify that I am a citizen of the United States, having been born in the city of Tulare, State of California, and have during the greater portion of my life resided in said city of Tulare.

I am married and my husband is steadily employed with the United States Government, and earns in excess of \$8,000 per year. I am steadily employed at the George Washington Hospital, Washington, D. C., and earn \$2,000 per

year. Both my husband and I are anxious and willing to aid in the support of Janet and Daisy Wong.

My sister, Mrs. Daisy Joe Fung (Tulare, Calif.) and I will, at all times, properly care for and support and maintain our two nieces hereinbefore mentioned, and that at no time will we allow them to become a charge upon the city, county, or State in which they reside.

RUBY E. CHAN.

JANUARY 15, 1950.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORDS

JANUARY 10, 1951.

I have been advised by Mrs. Daisy Joe Fund, Tulare, Calif., that steps have been taken by her to procure two steamship reservations from Hong Kong to San Francisco for her two nieces, Misses Janet and Daisy Wong.

W. L. CHAN.

THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL,
Hong Kong, February 24, 1950.

MR. WON LOY CHAN,
Washington, D. C.

SIR: Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of December 15, 1949, concerning the visa cases of Janet and Daisy Wong, daughters of Mrs. Jennie Wong.

Janet and Daisy Wong have registered under the nonpreference portion of the Chinese racial quota, which is considerably oversubscribed. According to the latest information available here, it will be several years before a quota number is likely to be available to them. You may be sure that we will give them every possible consideration under the existing laws and regulations, and that a visa will be issued as soon as those laws and regulations permit.

Very truly yours,

HARRY LEROY SMITH,
American Consul.

The files of the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives also contain the following letter:

TULARE COUNTY FAIR,
Tulare, Calif., August 25, 1950.

HON. EMANUEL CELLER,
Representative, Fifteenth District, New York,
House Office Building, Washington, D. C.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN CELLER: I am writing you regarding a private bill introduced in your committee by Congressman Thomas H. Werdel, Tenth District of California, in behalf of the daughters of Mrs. Jennie Wong, who are presently residing in Hong Kong, China.

Mrs. Wong arrived in the States approximately 2 years ago and immediately began the heart-breaking task of securing proper authority for entrance into the United States for her daughters in order that they might become naturalized citizens.

Mrs. Wong passed away several months ago. Her last request to her family here was that they continued her ceaseless efforts to bring her girls here where they could enjoy the financial security, wise counsel, and loving care of their immediate family.

I have known Mrs. Wong's entire family since I moved to Tulare in 1910 and attended school with two of them. At that time her father, Ling Joe, and her mother, Mary, had a well-known and long-established business here. Mary Joe, her son and two daughters are still residents of Tulare. They enjoy an enviable reputation in this community. They are honest, conscientious citizens and loyal Americans.

Now the fact remains that the nearest of kin of Daisy and Janet Wong, who are still minors, reside here in Tulare. They are most anxious to assume all financial responsibility connected with their support and well being in the future. This family must necessarily see to it that these girls be cared for in every way. They naturally want them here to ease the mental and financial strain.

Their grandmother, their mother, aunts, and uncle are citizens by birth.

In view of the above facts, I would deem it a great personal favor if your committee could report this bill out favorably so it may reach the floor of the House for action this session of Congress.

Thanking you for your consideration, I am,

Sincerely yours,

A. J. ELLIOTT.

The committee, after consideration of all the facts in the case, is of the opinion that the bill (H. R. 901) should be enacted.

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